

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1 to 15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) A layer system, comprising:  
an etched layer, whereby the etched layer is a silicon layer; and  
a passivation layer applied at least regionally to a surface of the silicon layer,  
wherein:

the passivation layer includes a first, at least largely, inorganic partial layer and a second partial layer, and

the second partial layer is made of an organic compound, wherein the organic compound includes a silane corresponding to one of an organic fluorine silane, an organic fluorochlorine silane, and a siloxane.

17. (Previously Presented) The layer system as recited in Claim 16, wherein the organic compound contains a halogen.

Claim 18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) A layer system, comprising:  
an etched layer, whereby the etched layer is a silicon layer; and  
a passivation layer applied at least regionally to a surface of the silicon layer,  
wherein:

the passivation layer includes a first, at least largely, inorganic partial layer and a second partial layer, and

the second partial layer is made of an organic compound,  
wherein the organic compound has the general formula  $R_a-R_b-Si(X)_{3-n}-(R_c)_n$ ,  
 $R_a$  being a perfluorinated polyether or a perfluorinated alkyl group having 1 to 16 carbon atoms, especially 6 to 12 carbon atoms,  $R_b$  and  $R_c$  being an alkyl group, and

X being a halogen, an acetoxy group or an alkoxyl group, and n having a value of 0 to 2.

20. (Previously Presented) The layer system as recited in Claim 16, wherein the first partial layer is at least largely composed of an oxide layer having a silicon oxide.

21. (Previously Presented) The layer system as recited in Claim 16, wherein the first partial layer has a thickness of 1 nm to 100 nm.

22. (Currently Amended) The layer system as recited in Claim 16, wherein the first partial layer has a thickness of 1 nm to 20 nm.

23. (Previously Presented) The layer system as recited in Claim 16, wherein the first partial layer is directly applied one of (a) to the silicon layer and (b) on a layer of silicon oxide situated on the silicon layer.

24. (Previously Presented) The layer system as recited in one Claim 16, wherein the second partial layer is a self-assembled monolayer.

25. (Previously Presented) The layer system as recited in Claim 16, wherein the second partial layer has a thickness of 0.5 nm to 30 nm.

26. (Previously Presented) The layer system as recited in Claim 16, wherein the second partial layer has a thickness of 5 nm to 20 nm.

27. (Previously Presented) The layer system as recited in Claim 16, wherein the passivation layer protects the silicon layer with respect to an etch attack by a gaseous halogen fluoride including one of  $\text{ClF}_3$  and  $\text{BrF}_3$ .

28. (Previously Presented) The layer system as recited in Claim 16, wherein the passivation layer is free of micro-scale or nano-scale channels which are permeable for a gas including one of  $\text{ClF}_3$ ,  $\text{BrF}_3$  and a vapor.

Claims 29.-32. (Cancelled).